

forward and do our best to secure such legislation as is indorsed by a majority of the Association.

I have no doubt you have noticed that you have had but few communicating "wall flowers" from this "neck of the desert." I have the honor to be

Most respectfully yours,

J. M. HURLEY, M. D.

The first point raised in the foregoing letter is made under a misapprehension of the facts. The Medical Society of the State of California is "composed largely of doctors of San Francisco and bay counties around San Francisco," but only because there are more members of the profession residing in that than any other section of the State. The membership of the bay counties, including San Francisco, Alameda, San Mateo, Contra Costa, Sonoma and Marin is 439. Almost every county in the State has representation in the State Society, and it is not the fault of the Society that every regular physician in the State is not enrolled.

As to the charge that delegates from other sections of the State than San Francisco are prohibited from participating in the affairs of the Society, the claim scarcely merits serious attention. The Constitution and By-Laws of the Society are constructed on the broadest possible lines. At the last meeting of the Society its deliberations were participated in by members from the various parts of the State, and the one delegate to which the State Society was entitled to represent it at the last meeting of the American Medical Association came from Southern California.

It sometimes happens that papers sent in to the Committee on Program are declined, and for various reasons. The paper might be too long, it might be unethical, it might be inappropriate, it might be vituperative, it might be declined for many other reasons—and it might be declined because it had not been sent in to the committee in time to be placed on the program.

If the medical profession of the State of California is ever to be united, that desirable end will not be brought about by sectional strife nor by jealousy of the attainments of the eminent men in the profession. The aim of the State Society is to unite the county societies in a harmonious whole, not to disrupt. Any attempt by a section of the State to arrogate to itself the management of the Society, or to force the adoption of sectional measures, would be regarded with distrust by the Society, and by no one more strongly than the members from San Francisco and vicinity.

It is true the JOURNAL has received few communications from "wall-flowers from this neck of the desert," but it is to be hoped future communications from that section will evidence a more friendly feeling toward the State Society.—Ed.

IN MEMORIAM.

DR. WALTER REED, A. M., LL. D., born September 13, 1851; died November 23, 1902—A Memorial Meeting held in Washington, D. C., December 31, 1902—Reported by PHILIP MILLS JONES.

In honor of the memory of Dr. Walter Reed, U. S. A., a memorial meeting was held under the auspices of the Medical Society of the District of Columbia on the evening of December 31st. An introductory address and eulogy was delivered by the President of the Society, Dr. Samuel S. Adams. Dr. Adams dwelt principally upon Dr. Reed's connection with the District Medical Society and the stand he had taken upon the subject of diphtheria and the antitoxin treatment, as generally recalling and indicating Dr. Reed's foresight and steadfastness of purpose. Dr. Robert A. Marmon, Medical Director U. S. Navy, presented a biography of Dr. Reed that exhibited very careful preparation. Dr. Reed received his first medical degree after one term of nine months, from the University of Virginia; he afterwards took a second medical course and degree in New York, also in one term. Later he entered the U. S. Army and had a varied experience at the small western army posts. Dr. Jesserson Randolph Kean, Surgeon-Major U. S. Army, delivered an address on the subject of "Dr. Reed as an Army Officer," and testified to his high character as an officer and a gentleman as well as a distinguished scientific worker. Prof. A. F. A. King addressed the meeting upon the subject of "Dr. Reed as a Teacher in the Columbian University Medical Department." Professor King mentioned the fact that at a dinner of the naturalists, held the night before, something was said about Dr. Reed's work and scarcely any one present knew of Dr. Reed or his wonderful achievement. When the story of Reed's work was told, however, it was very warmly received and the suggestion made to start a collection at once for a permanent memorial to his memory. Further counsel prevailed, and it was decided to refer the matter to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, then meeting in Washington. This point was brought up by Dr. King to show how little the people, even scientific men, knew of the exceedingly valuable work that this quiet, modest, unassuming scientist had achieved. Dr. Charles W. Stiles, U. S. M. H. S., had prepared a full biography of Dr. Reed's works (which was not read), and said a few words in regard to the small number but great value of his published writings. On the subject of the "Work of Dr. Reed in Cuba," General Leonard Wood, U. S. Army, spoke very feelingly. He said, in part: "I know of no other man on this side of the world who has done so much for humanity as Dr. Reed. His discovery of the means of transmission of yellow fever, and the method of removing it, has effected the saving of lives annually in excess of all those lost in the Spanish War, and a saving in money annually in excess of the whole cost of that war. He came to Cuba at a time when we had done everything that could be done to clean Havana, yet yellow fever was still epidemic. As a result of his work that terrible scourge was absolutely abolished. Later, in a month when ordinarily yellow fever had been worst, he checked the disease and drove it from Havana. That was the first time in 200 years that Havana had been free from the disease." Professor William H. Welch closed the meeting with an address upon Dr. Reed as a scientist and a benefactor to humanity. Dr. Welch referred to the natural ability of Dr. Reed as an investigator and his hard study and solid training. He said that Dr. Reed possessed the mental and physical